



4 Collins Ave
Plymouth MA, 02360
Phone (508) 830-6999
www.pactv.org

March 29, 2016

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch

Secretary

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

Re: Promoting the Availability of Diverse and Independent Sources of Video (DN 16-41)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing on behalf of Plymouth Area Community Access Television. We are an access organization that has served four communities (Plymouth, Pembroke, Duxbury and Kingston) in Southeastern Massachusetts since 1997.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide information for the FCC's inquiry,

The FCC asks the following questions regarding Public, Educational and Government Access channels in the inquiry:

"We seek comment on MVPD's practices with respect to making PEG programming information available to subscribers. To the extent that MVPDs do not make this information available, is this for technical reasons, and if so, can the technical barriers be surmounted? Is the Congressionally-imposed prohibition against editorial control of PEG channels relevant to this issue? What is the source of the Commission's authority in this area, if any?"

Our viewers indicate that they use the channel guide as a tool to see what is available to watch, and then use it to click onto the channels they will watch. Since our schedule is not on the channel guide, they don't tune in to our programs unless they make a special effort to find our schedule on our website. This does not happen under normal circumstances, causing a decrease in our viewership.

The FCC also asks a series of questions about the ability of independent channels to achieve distribution on MVPD systems and the negotiating practices of MVPDs.

We are currently in negotiations with Comcast for HD channels as our contract with Comcast in Plymouth expires in the summer of 2016. We have the technical equipment to cablecast an HD signal, having recently upgraded our playback equipment to allow for this. We are ready to cablecast an HD channel as soon as Comcast allocates an HD channel to us.

We appreciate the opportunity to enter this information into the record.

Sincerely,

Nancy Richard

Plymouth Area Community Access Television, Inc. (PACTV)

